



Smithfield High School, Isle of Wight County Schools
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Overview Students began this project by writing a fictional newspaper article detailing a traffic fatality that they are involved in. Upon completion of this article, students wrote their own eulogy, highlighting their accomplishments in their brief lives.

Driving Question What risk factors contribute to teen fatalities in automobile accidents and how can we minimize the risks?

Postcard

Student Reflections

Student 1: "It was a very eye-opening experience because you have to think about your own death. It makes an individual see how little they accomplished and how much potential was never achieved. It really shows the dangers of not following the laws for operating vehicles, and may even scare some students into following the law (Ex: not drinking and driving, wearing seatbelts, etc.)."

Student 2: "This project helped me to realize how dangerous driving under the influence can be and how quickly it all can end."

Student 3: "It felt weird writing my own obituary, I felt kind of uncomfortable but it made me think about the choices I will make in the future."

Teacher Reflection "Kick off this project with an attention getting video regarding teen fatalities in preventable auto accidents. Follow the video with a guest speaker, perhaps of a parent who has lost a child to an auto fatality. Some students had a difficult time grasping the concept of dying young."

Lessons Learned "Kick off the project with a guest speaker that can share a story of personal loss associated with auto accident. Also, encourage students to express empathy and emotion when writing the eulogy."

Did Project Meet Goals? 4 out of 5 (Likely to recommend)

PBL Unpacked (on page 2)

As identified using the "Unpacking Tool" within www.pblounge.org



PBL Unpacked

As identified using "Unpack My PBL" within www.pbllounge.org

WANTS

NEEDS

Public Project

- Performing:* Speech / Spoken Word
Performance
- Interacting:* Show / Program: Guest Speaker
- Producing:* Other: Eulogy, Obituary
- Presenting:* Utilize Visuals

Media Produced

- Digital Content:* Video Content
- Print or Other Media:* Newspaper

Real World Exploration

- Humans in the World:* Constitution, Laws & Civics
Family, Friends & Relationships
Student Related Issues
- Of the Mind:* Implications of Decisions

Authentic Industries & People

- Career & Technical:* Education
Law, Public Safety, Corrections

Questions & Themes

- Challenging Problem:* Self Awareness
- Themes:* Reveal the World
Research-based

Project Parameters

- Project Timeframe:* 7-8 Weeks
- # of Project Members:* Individual
- Grade Level:* High School
- Authentic Connections:* Peers
Parents
Teachers & Administrators
Community Members

Success Skills

- Creativity:* Envision
- Communication:* Role-play
- Collaboration:* Influence Others Through Leadership
- Critical Thinking:* Analyze
Rationale, Objective Decision-making
- Instilled Citizenship Values:* Express Empathy / Compassion
Personal Responsibility
Social & Political World

Areas of Knowledge & Understanding

- Communication:* Journalism & Broadcasting
Speech Communication & Translation
Technical Writing
- Humanities:* Composition & Linguistics
- Sciences:* Health

